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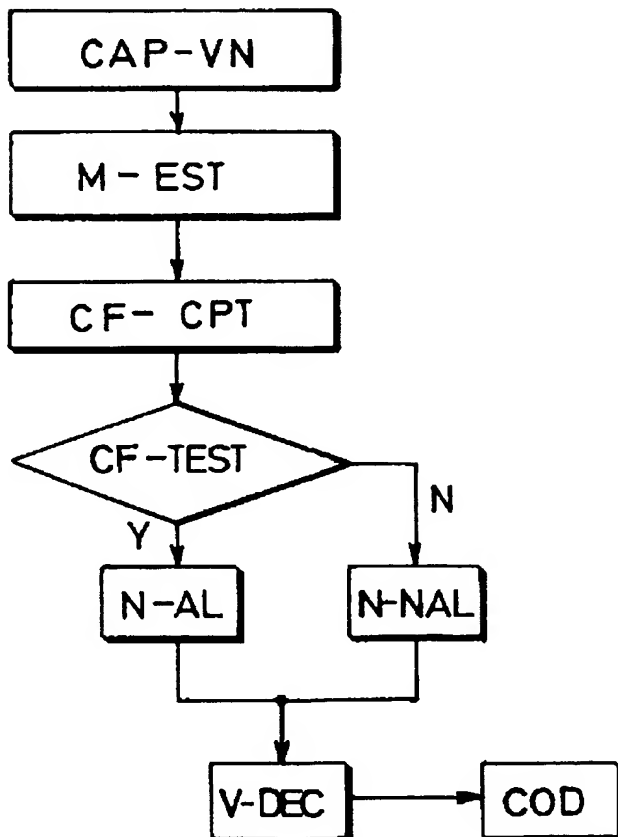
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(54) Title: VIDEO ENCODING METHOD



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to an encoding method processing video object planes (VOPs) of I, P or B type and including a dynamic allocation of said VOPs. According to said method, for each input frame a preliminary forward motion estimation is carried out between current and previous frames. Current and previous motion fields are then used to evaluate a coherence factor, expressed as connected to the sums of local differences within current and previous motion field. According to the value of the coherence factor with respect to an empirically determined threshold, a decision is finally taken on the type of the frame to be coded.

WO 2004/036920 A1



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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| X | US 6 307 886 B1 (WESTERMANN EDWARD F) 23 October 2001 (2001-10-23) abstract column 6, line 55 -column 7, line 10; figure 6 | 1,2 |
| X | US 2002/037051 A1 (TAKENAKA YUUJI) 28 March 2002 (2002-03-28) abstract paragraph '0065! - paragraph '0066!; claims 1-4; figures 1,5 -/-- | 1 |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal

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| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
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